

REMARKS

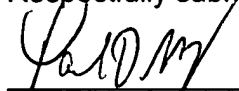
Applicants elect, with traverse, to proceed with the examination of the claims of Group I (i.e., claims 1-8 and 12-13).

In this regard, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and rejoinder of the non-elected method and software program claims on the grounds that searching the claims of Group I drawn to the fluid movement system would necessarily also cover the claims of Groups II and III. That is, the claims of Group I involve a search for a system that includes, inter alia, (1) a pressure variation means for moving the sample fluid under the influence of a pressure variation applied to the system, and (2) timing means for controlling the timing for releasing a pressure in the pressure variation means. The claims of Groups II and III also include, inter alia, the same two primary recited features in the claims of Group I, i.e., they include (1) moving the sample fluid under the influence of the pressure variation, and (2) controlling the timing for releasing a pressure in the pressure variation means. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that one searching the system with the recited pressure variation means and timing means having the recited properties would necessarily cover the same art fields as that which would be required to search the claims of Groups II and III with the same properties.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the Restriction Requirement and rejoin all of the claims on the basis that searching the claims of Group I will cover the claims of Groups II and III as well.

1-13-04
Date

Respectfully submitted,



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